MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

Keswick Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
Antony Hargreaves, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1966

Together with the Summary of Work
of the Public Health Inspector

Keswick Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
Antony Hargreaves, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1966

Together with the Summary of Work
of the Public Health Inspector

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

A. Hargreaves, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector :

R. Lusher.

Assistant Public Health Inspector :

T. Thwaite.

Clerk and Assistant :

R. Birkett.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my first annual report as Medical Officer of Health to Keswick Urban District.

My appointment is held jointly with Cockermouth Rural District, Cockermouth Urban District and Cumberland County Councils.

The report is along the lines followed by my predecessors and there are no outstanding variations in the statistics from previous years. Vital statistics are on the whole very satisfactory, although it must be borne in mind that the population of the area is small and therefore too much significance should not be attached to some of the figures quoted.

The incidence of communicable diseases during the year would appear to have been incredibly low so far as notifications are concerned. Though one suspects that appearances are deceptive. There was one new case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year.

The second part of this report has been prepared by Mr. Lusher and I would like to record my appreciation of the help which I receive from him at all times.

I would like also to express my thanks for the help given to me by the Clerk, and the friendliness and consideration I have received from members of the Council.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ANTONY HARGREAVES,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres) : 1,272.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population : 4,340 mid-1965 — 4,316 ; mid-1964 — 4,410 ; mid-1963 — 4,600 ; mid-1962 — 4,590 ; mid-1961 — 4,630.

Number of inhabited houses : 1,701.

Rateable Value : £202,785.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate : £794.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

The Tables of Vital Statistics are set out below, showing birth rates, death rates and rates for maternal and infantile mortality.

Crude birth and death rates are corrected by means of an Area Comparability Factor supplied each year by the Registrar General. They allow for varying age and sex distribution of the population in different areas and enable comparisons to be made with figures for other areas.

This year the factor for births is 1.12 and for deaths 0.82.

BIRTHS.

Live Births.

Number : 71.

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Legitimate Births	34	27	61
Illegitimate Births	5	5	10
Total ...	39	32	71

Rate per 1,000 population	16.4
Adjusted Rate	18.3
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent. of total live births)	14%

Still Births.

Number : 1.

	Males	*Females*	*Total*
Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	1	0	1

Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births ... 13.9

Total live and still-births 72

Infant deaths (deaths under one year) 4

Infant Mortality Rates :

Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births ... 56.3

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births 56.3

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births 0

Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births) ... 56.3

Early Neo-natal Mortality (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births) 42.2

Peri-natal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 live and still-births 55.5

Maternal Mortality (including abortion) :

There were no maternal deaths in 1966

DEATHS.

	Males.	*Females.*	*Total.*
Deaths (all ages)	44	47	91

Death rate per 1,000 population 21.0

Adjusted death rate per 1,000 population 17.2

Total Deaths from certain causes :

Tuberculosis	0
Other communicable diseases	1
Cancer (all forms)	19
Leukaemia	0
Motor vehicle accidents	0
All other accidents	4
Suicide	0

The cancer death rate per 1,000 population was 4.4 (1965—3.0) Approximately one death in five was due to cancer.

Senile deaths (deaths occurring over age 65) were 72—79 of all deaths. (82 in 1965).

VITAL STATISTICS

Population of the Urban District is 4,340.

Live BIRTH—

		Males	Females	Total	Grand Total	Rate per 1,000 pop. uncorrected	Rate per 1,000 pop. corrected
1961	Legitimate	35	32	67			
	Illegitimate	2	3	5	72	15.6	15.6
1962	Legitimate	20	19	39			
	Illegitimate	1	2	3	42	9.0	9.0
1963	Legitimate	30	26	56			
	Illegitimate	3	4	7	63	13.7	1.53
1964	Legitimate	30	23	53			
	Illegitimate	1	7	8	61	13.8	15.4
1965	Legitimate	27	19	46			
	Illegitimate	3	3	6	52	12.0	13.4
1966	Legitimate	34	27	61			
	Illegitimate	5	5	10	71	16.2	18.3

STILL BIRTHS—

		Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1,000	Total (live & still births)
1961	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1962	Legitimate	1	1	2		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1963	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1964	Legitimate	1	0	1		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	1	16.1
1965	Legitimate	0	0	0		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0.0
1966	Legitimate	1	0	1		
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	1	13.9

DEATHS—

Year	Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1,000 pop. uncorrected	Rate per 1,000 pop. corrected
1961	41	45	86	18.5	15.9
1962	37	35	72	15.8	13.6
1963	40	41	81	17.6	14.6
1964	45	40	85	19.3	16.0
1965	52	37	89	20.5	17.0
1966	44	47	91	21.0	17.2

MATERNAL MORTALITY :—

Year	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births.
1961	0	——
1962	0	——
1962	0	——
1963	0	——
1964	1	16.4
1965	0	——
1966	0	——

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES :—

Year	Deaths of Infants under 1 year	All Infants per 1000 live births	Legitimate Infants per 1000 live Legitimate Births	Illegitimate Infants per 1000 live Illegitimate Births
1961	2	28.0	28.0	—
1962	0	—	—	—
1963	3	48.6	53.6	—
1964	2	32.8	37.7	—
1965	0	—	—	—
1966	4	56.3	56.3	—

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE :—

	Pulmonary T.B. Deaths	Other T.B. Deaths	Total T.B. Deaths	Pulmonary T.B. Death Rate per 1000 pop.	Total T.B. Death Rate per 1000 pop
1961	0	0	0	—	—
1962	1	0	1	0.2	0.2
1963	0	0	0	—	—
1964	0	0	0	—	—
1965	0	0	0	—	—
1966	0	0	0	—	—

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE RATES (Uncorrected) :—

BIRTH RATE

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
England and Wales	17.4	18.0	18.2	18.4	18.0	17.7
County of Cumberland	17.6	18.3	17.7	18.4	17.4	16.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland	17.8	18.3	16.8	18.8	18.2	16.8
Keswick Urban	15.6	9.0	13.7	13.8	12.0	16.4

DEATH RATE

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
England and Wales	12.0	11.9	12.2	11.3	11.5	11.7
County of Cumberland	12.3	12.2	12.5	11.8	12.0	12.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland	12.6	12.3	11.7	11.5	12.3	12.2
Keswick Urban	18.5	15.8	17.6	19.3	20.5	21.0

INFANTILE MORTALITY

	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
England and Wales	21.4	21.4	20.9	20.0	19.0	19.0
County of Cumberland	22.6	26.4	22.0	18.3	16.9	21.0
Urban Districts of Cumberland	22.4	20.4	15.0	20.5	11.5	21.7
Keswick Urban	28.0	0.0	48.6	32.8	0.0	56.3

CAUSE OF DEATHS, 1966

	Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
	All Causes	44	47
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	0	0
2.	Tuberculosis, Other	0	0
3.	Syphilitic Disease	0	0
4.	Diphtheria	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0
6.	Meningo-coccal Infections	0	0
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
8.	Measles	0	0
9.	Other Infective and Parisitic diseases	0	0
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	2
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	0
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	7
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	0
16.	Diabetes	0	0
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	13
18.	Coronary disease, angina	10	9
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	2	0
20.	Other heart disease	7	3
21.	Other circulatory disease	3	0
22.	Influenza	0	1
23.	Pneumonia	0	1
24.	Bronchitis	2	2
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations	0	1
32 .	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	3
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	0	0
34.	All other accidents	2	2
35.	Suicide	0	0
36	Homicide and operations of war	0	0

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths under 1 year showing varying causes and ages.

Cause of Death		Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year.
Prematurity	M	1				1					1
	F										
Birth Injury	M	1				1					1
	F	1				1					1
Hydrocephalus	M										
Total		3				3					3

DEATHS FROM CANCER

Site of Cancer.	Males	Females	Totals
Alimentary : Rectum	2	1	3
Colon	1	4	5
Stomach	1	1	2
Oesophagus	0	1	1
Mouth	1	0	1
Glandular : Breast	0	2	2
Respiratory : Lung	2	1	3
Malignant melanoma	0	1	1
Squamous cell carcinoma	1	0	1
	8	11	19

CASES ON THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	Males	Females	Totals
Pulmonary	14	5	19
Non Pulmonary	1	5	6
Totals	15	10	25

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

(a) STAFF

The appointment of Dr. A. Hargreaves as Medical Officer of Health for the area commenced on the 1st September, 1966.

(b) LABORATORY SERVICES

All microbiological work is carried out in the Carlisle Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service. I am most grateful to Dr. D. G. Davies, the Director of the Laboratory, for his help during the year.

(c) LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

Medical services provided under Part III of the National Health Service Act, and Welfare Services provided under the National Assistance Act are the responsibility of the Cumberland County Council. Information about these services, including the provision of Home Nursing and Maternity Services, Home Helps, Immunisation Services, Accommodation for the Physically or Mentally Handicapped, assistance for the Unmarried Mother, assistance and advice in connection with Family Planning. Accommodation for the Aged, may be obtained from the Area Health Office, Stoneleigh, Park End Road, Workington.

The local clinic is at Bank Street, Keswick. The times, places and services are as follows :—

Child Welfare . . .	Thursdays 2 p.m.
School Clinic . . .	By appointment
Dental Clinic . . .	By appointment
Speech Therapy . . .	By appointment

The services include specialist advice on the assessment and correction of vision and hearing defects.

A scheme for the screening of women for the prevention of cancer of the neck of the womb is in operation—by appointment.

Immunisation procedures are carried out at the Child Welfare Clinic and at schools by arrangement, including B.C.G. vaccination.

(d) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS

No enforcement action was taken during the year to secure proper care and attention for the elderly and chronic sick.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The total number of cases of Infectious Disease notified in 1966 was 2.

Notified were one case of puerperal pyrexia and one case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

There were no deaths from Tuberculosis, and no new Pulmonary cases were notified.

There were no notifications or deaths from Diphtheria, Smallpox, Poliomyelitis, Typhoid, or Food Poisoning in 1966.

IMMUNISATION

SMALLPOX

Age when vaccinated or re-vaccinated	Number Vaccinated	Number Re-vaccinated
Under 1 yr.	1	—
1 yr. — 23 mths.	7	—
2 — 4 yrs.	6	—
5 — 14 yrs.	—	—
	14	—
15 or over	—	—

Statistics relating to smallpox vaccination complications have shown that the safest age at which to perform this process is around two years.

DIPHTHERIA/TETANUS/WHOOPING COUGH

The figures in the table show the number of triple antigen immunisations performed during the year, both primary courses and booster doses.

In all, 81 children completed a primary course and 144 had booster doses.

Children over five years do not receive the whooping cough component.

POLIOMYELITIS

106 people received a primary course of oral vaccine in 1966, of which 48 were children under the age of five.

B.C.G. TUBERCULOSIS

Mantoux Testing and B.C.G. vaccination was continued in 1966, the age groups concerned being those born in 1953 plus a few older ones not previously tested.

Of 98 children attending schools in Keswick who were tested 14 proved to be positive reactors.

83 negative reactors were given B.C.G. vaccinations.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION UNDERTAKEN DURING 1966

Year of Birth	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	T.
Primary	17	27	1	—	1	3	2	7	11	3	4	1	—	77
Booster	—	2	14	2	—	6	18	17	5	13	18	42	7	144

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION UNDERTAKEN DURING 1966

Year of Birth	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	pre-1950	T.
Primary Cause	4	34	4	2	1	3	5	6	11	4	4	7	2	—	—	1	—	18	106
Booster	—	—	—	—	—	4	13	9	16	16	4	11	1	—	—	—	—	1	75

MANTOUX TESTING AND B.C.G. VACCINATION

Children born 1953 and a few older ones.

No. Eligible for Tests	No. Mantoux Tested	Positive	Negative	No. given B.C.G. Vacccination
120	98	14	84	83

KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my 16th Annual Report on Public Health work carried out in my department, during the year ended 31st December, 1966.

I would like to record my appreciation of the co-operation which I have received from my colleagues on the staff of the Council and to Members of the Council I would offer my thanks for their consideration and support.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RALPH LUSHER,

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor to the Council

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The supply from the ghylls was ample at all times and no difficulty was experienced in maintaning supplies.

During the year the Council's consulting Engineers completed work on the preparation of a scheme to be undertaken jointly with the West Cumberland Water Board for the improvement of the water supplies in Keswick and adjoining parishes.

The scheme provides for an additional source of supply from Roughton Ghyll and a new intake at a higher level in Millbeck Ghyll. A treatment plant and prestressed concrete reservoir is to be built at Underscar and a further reservoir at Braithwaite, both reservoirs are 480,000 gallons capacity.

From Underscar a 12″ main is to be laid to Ormathwaite at which point it will branch into a 10″ main for Keswick and a 6″ main for Portinscale and Braithwaite. It is estimated that this scheme will increase the safe reliable yield to over 500,000 gallons per day of which 350,000 gallons will be required by Keswick and 150,000 gallons by the West Cumberland Water Board.

After advertising, two contracts were entered into :—Messrs. Tarmac Civil Engineering Ltd. were awarded the Contract for the construction of the reservoirs and Messrs. Border Engineering Contractors Ltd. were given the Contract for the laying of the mains. The total cost of this scheme is £230,000.

Work began on the 1st November, 1966.

38 samples of water were submitted for analysis during the year, 35 of which were regarded by the analyst as highly satisfactory.

All houses in the district have a water supply inside the house.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The improvement and reconstruction of the sewage disposal works was completed during the year.

The County Engineer is now considering a scheme to relieve certain sewers which are surcharged with storm water in periods of heavy rain.

The sewers generally in the district are adequate and give very little trouble.

SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE

This service runs at a loss and consequently a good deal of material which could be salvaged is disposed of on the refuse tip.

In 1955 the Council received £8 per ton for mixed paper. In 1964 the price dropped to £6 and it now stands at £7 per ton. During this time costs have continued to rise and unless the price received for the waste paper can be related more directly to costs of collection it is clear that collections will have to be curtailed.

The salvage of paper and cardboard was continued during the year and comparative figures of sales in the past five years are as follows :—

1962	156 tons sold for £963.
1963	162 tons sold for £973.
1964	133 tons sold for £807.
1965	147 tons sold for £1,029.
1966	118 tons sold for £825.

The price paid for paper remained at £7 per ton throughout the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Summary of Inspections during the year :—

Premises inspected during the year	185
Nuisances or defects discovered	27
do. do. remedied after informal action ...	20
do. do. remedied after statutory notice ...	6
Housing Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts ...	220

A total of 46 factories are entered in the Factories Register, 10 inspections were made of these premises during the year.

THE OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The following is a report of the work done in connection with this Act during the year :—

On the 31st December, 1966, 167 premises were registered. During the year 62 establishments received general inspections and 20 additional visits were made for regulation purposes. Special care has been given to catering establishments. Some of the labour employed in seasonal places is of a migrant type and when employed in restaurants and cafes needs close supervision. It is significant that the odd feckless and unimaginative proprietor needs more care and consequently frequent visiting to ensure a reasonable standard being achieved.

Small authorities have the advantage of one person being responsible in different fields for many of the services provided and good use can be made of this by the following :—

Plans can be considered for compliance with the various requirements of different legislation at one and the same time.

Suggestions for improvements can be made on the spot which facilitate all requirements instead of as often happens just the one requirement.

Site visits for other purposes can combine inspections and deal with infringements as they are being made, this is of course economical for both the proprietor and the Local Authority.

Standards have been generally high and there is evidence in many establishments of the benefits that have ensued from the marketing of the various plastic surfaces, especially from a food hygiene standpoint, and also considering the quick and simple operation that cleansing of such surfaces now entail.

618 persons are employed in the following places :—

	Men	Women	Total
Offices	63	65	128
Wholesale Depts. & Warehouses	9	2	11
Retail Shops	86	217	303
Catering Establishments	50	126	176
	208	410	618

Several places are in a state of change and consequently are not covered by this report.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Council employees undertake treatment as recommended. The sewers were treated several times during the year. Treatments were also carried out at 11 private houses.

The refuse tip is sited very close to the Council's Derwentwater Caravan and Camping Sites and pest control is therefore very important in this area. The Council engaged Messrs. Rentokil Laboratories Ltd. with a Contract to deal with rats and flies and these pests were kept well under control during the year.

CARAVAN SITE

The Council's Derwentwater Caravan Site continued to operate successfully. A further extension for 20 caravans is to be carried out in time for the opening of the 1967 season. When this extension is completed there will be space for 160 caravans.

CAMPING SITE

Mr. P. Squibb, who has been the Warden since the site opened in 1963 resigned in February and a new Warden, Mr. R. Messenger, was appointed in March.

HOUSING

28 private houses were built during the year.

FLATS AT GRETA COURT

I reported last year that 23 of these flats had been completed. The remaining 19 flats were completed during January and they were all occupied by the middle of February.

The scheme comprises 12 single person, one bedroom, 25 2-person, one bedroom, 4 3-person, 2 bedroom flats and one 3-bedroom flat. The 3-bedroom flat is for the caretaker who was appointed in February. These flats are small and easy working with electric underfloor heating, fitted kitchens, refrigerators and electric cookers. It has been found that a number of aged persons who were opposed to entering the partial dependency flatlets on the grounds of supposed loss of independence are quite comfortable and happy in these flats.

DERWENT CLOSE

Mrs. M. Tyson, who has been the Warden since the flats were opened at the end of 1961, resigned at the beginning of this year and a new Warden, Mrs. V. Groocock, was appointed in February.

These 20 aged persons flatlets continued to serve a very useful purpose.

The approximate average age of the tenants on the ground floor is 80 years and on the first floor 78 years.

MILLFIELD GARDENS

Work was commenced on the design of a housing scheme on the above site which will comprise about 55 three bedroom houses.

The Council own a total of 408 houses, of which 277 are post war houses.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

5 applications were received for Improvement Grants and Grants were made in all cases. 4 of the applications were in respect of owner occupied premises.

This is a decrease of 7 applications over last year's figure.

RENT ACT, 1957.

No applications were recived for Certificates of Disrepair and no action was taken by the Council under this Act.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK AND DAIRIES

12 milk samples were submitted to the analyst.

Under a local arrangement made in this County, the inspection work is still being carried out by the local Public Health Inspectors and 12 such inspections were made during the year.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are no slaughter houses in the Urban District, all meat is transported from abattoirs outside the district.

The following is a brief summary of food stuffs for which cetificates of unsoundness were issued by the Public Health Inspector.

293 lbs. Cooked Meat, and 142 tins of various foods. These food stuffs were removed by the refuse collectors and buried at the refuse tip.

BAKEHOUSES. There are five in existence. As usual all these premises were periodically inspected.

ICE CREAM.	Registered premises for manufacture or sale ...	31
	Registered premises for sale only	29

FOOD (Preparation and Manufacture) Premises.

Registered premises for the preparation & manufacture of foods	11

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

The work of inspection of food premises continued during the year.

Ferguson Bros (Printers) Ltd. Keswick.